

IN THE DRAWINGS

The two attached sheets of drawings include changes to Fig. 1 and Fig. 2. These attached sheets replace the original sheets including Fig. 1 and Fig. 2.

In Fig. 1, inadvertent typographical errors corresponding to elements 15 and 31 have been amended; and

In Fig. 2, reference character “Q” has been replaced by reference character “P.”

Attachment: Replacement Sheets
Annotated Sheets Showing Changes

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance. The present amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 9-16 are currently pending in this application. Claims 9- 16 have been amended. Changes to claims are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicant is entitled.

II. IN THE DRAWINGS

Fig. 1 and Fig. 2 have been amended to address minor typographical errors. These corrections are fully supported by Applicant's disclosure. In Fig. 1, the text "DEMODULATION UNIT" associated with element (15) of the transmission apparatus (1) has been replaced by "MODULATION UNIT." Conversely, the text "MODULATION UNIT" associated with element (31) of the reception apparatus (2) has been replaced by "DEMODULATION UNIT." These amendment are supported by paragraphs [0023]-[0024] of Applicant's disclosure. In Fig. 2, the text "DIVISION RATIO Q" associated with the broken line connecting the Fs decoder (32) to the variable divider (55) has been replaced by "DIVISION RATIO P." This amendment is supported by paragraph [0042] of Applicant's disclosure.

III. ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Claims 11 and 12 have been deemed allowable. The Examiner also indicated that claims 9 and 10 would also be allowable if rewritten to overcome the current rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Applicant has accordingly addressed these rejections and respectfully submits that claims 9 and 10 are now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of claims 9 and 10 are, therefore, respectfully requested.

IV. CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 9-10 and 13-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. The Examiner has indicated that the term *"the clock generating means generates a signal of a comparative frequency by dividing a signal of given frequency generated based on a result of comparison of phase of a signal of reference frequency generated by dividing the second clock with the signal of comparative frequency"* is unclear. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 9-10 and 13-16 have been accordingly amended to overcome these rejections.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections is, therefore, respectfully requested.

V. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

Claims 13 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 7,088,398 to Wolf et al. (hereinafter, merely “*Wolf*”).

VI. RESPONSE TO REJECTIONS

Independent claim 13 recites, *inter alia*:

“A reception apparatus for receiving a first digital signal and a second digital signal ... comprising:

... clock reproducing means for reproducing the first clock based on the second clock received by the receiving means and the division ratio information generated by the division ratio information generating means, wherein said division ratio information includes a plurality of division ratios; wherein

the clock reproducing means generates a signal of a comparative frequency by dividing a signal of given frequency by said plurality of division ratios, the signal of given frequency generated based on a result of comparison of phase of a signal of reference frequency with the signal of comparative frequency, wherein the signal of reference frequency is generated by dividing the second clock.” (Emphasis added)

A. A Reception Apparatus Whereby The Clock Reproducing Means Generates A Signal Of A Comparative Frequency By Dividing The Signal Of Given Frequency By A Plurality Of Division Ratios Is Not Taught Or Suggested In The Prior Art Used As A Basis Of Rejection

Wolf does not disclose or suggest “division ratio information” that includes “a plurality of division ratios,” “wherein the clock reproducing means generates a signal of a comparative frequency by dividing a signal of given frequency by said plurality of division ratios,” as recited in claim 13.

In *Wolf*, Fig. 15 illustrates a block diagram of the overall system architecture model for audio clock regeneration. The transmitter determines the fractional relationship between the pixel clock (the video clock) and an audio reference clock (known as "MCLK" or master clock, whereby MCLK has a frequency equal to $Z \cdot F_s$, where F_s is the audio sample rate and Z is typically equal to $Y \cdot 128$. Y is a small integer such as 1, 2, or 3). The transmitter passes a numerator ("N") and denominator ("CTS") for this fraction, and the pixel clock, to the receiver across a serial link (i.e., via the transmitter's formatting, encoding, and transmitting circuitry 138). Receiving and decoding circuitry 139 in the receiver then recovers the pixel clock and data indicative of the N and CTS values, whereby the receiver re-creates the audio reference clock from the pixel clock using clock divider 132 and clock multiplier 133. As shown in Fig. 16, clock multiplier 133 is typically implemented as a PLL including a phase detector 134, low-pass filter 135, voltage-controlled oscillator 136, and frequency divider 137. *Wolf*, col. 63, lines 22-42.

Wolf's mere re-creation of the audio reference clock from the pixel clock using a clock divider (132) and a clock multiplier (133) fails to disclose or suggest "division ratio information" that includes "a plurality of division ratios," "wherein the clock reproducing means generates a signal of a comparative frequency by dividing a signal of given frequency by said plurality of division ratios," as recited in claim 13. Moreover, as illustrated in Fig. 16, the signal output from the VCO (136) is merely divided by a single frequency divider (i.e., divider 137). Similarly, the received pixel clock is also divided by a single frequency divider (i.e., divider 132). Thus, neither the VCO output signal nor the pixel clock disclose or suggest "generat[ing] a

signal of a comparative frequency by dividing a signal of given frequency by [a] plurality of division ratios."

Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 13 is patentable. For reasons similar to those described above with regard to independent claim 13, independent claim 15 is also patentable.

VII. DEPENDENT CLAIMS

The other claims are dependent from one of the independent claims discussed above, and are therefore believed patentable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

Similarly, because Applicant maintains that all claims are allowable for at least the reasons presented hereinabove, in the interests of brevity, this response does not comment on each and every comment made by the Examiner in the Office Action. This should not be taken as acquiescence of the substance of those comments, and Applicant reserves the right to address such comments.

CONCLUSION

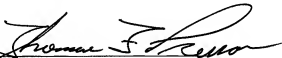
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims remaining in this application are patentable and Applicant respectfully requests early passage to issue of the present application.

In the event the Examiner disagrees with any of the statements appearing above with respect to the disclosures in the cited reference or references, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portion or portions of the reference or references, providing the basis for a contrary view.

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,

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FIG. 1

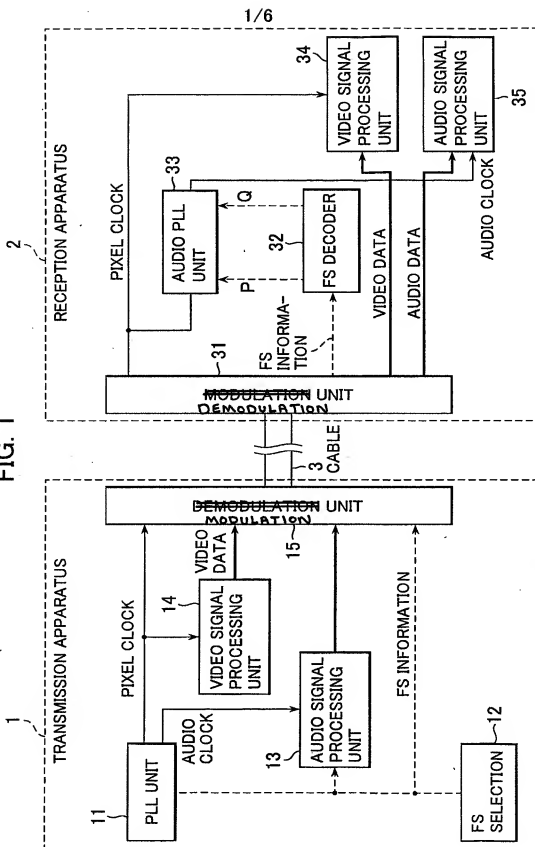


FIG. 2

